



JOHNSON COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

Written Proponent Testimony on HB 2447
House Committee on Elections
Johnson County Republican Party
Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Chairman Proctor and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 2447. My name is Sue Huff, and I serve as Chairwoman of the Johnson County Republican Party. I appreciate your consideration of this legislation and the opportunity to share a local party perspective on the presidential nominating process.

House Bill 2447 recognizes an important reality faced by large counties when presidential nominating contests are administered solely by political parties. A party-run primary or caucus requires a significant amount of advance planning, financing, logistical coordination, and volunteer recruitment. These responsibilities fall entirely on local party organizations that already operate with limited resources and rely heavily on volunteers.

To give a sense of scale, if the Johnson County Republican Party were to administer a caucus or party run primary in a way that is fair, accessible, and orderly, we would likely need to rent at least four large venues across the county. Each location would require dozens of trained volunteers to manage voter check in, ballot distribution, voter assistance, security, and vote tabulation. In addition to venue costs, the party would bear the financial burden of equipment, supplies, insurance, and compliance requirements. Even with careful planning, the strain on volunteers and party infrastructure would be substantial.

While a caucus or party administered primary may work in smaller counties, Johnson County presents unique challenges. More than twenty percent of Kansas voters reside in Johnson County. That level of participation demands coordination, consistency, and the capacity to handle large turnout efficiently. Without the assistance and expertise of the Johnson County Election Office, it becomes increasingly difficult to ensure the process runs smoothly for voters and volunteers alike.

House Bill 2447 provides a practical solution by placing the administration of the presidential preference primary within the existing election framework. County election offices already

possess the staff, experience, equipment, and legal authority necessary to conduct professionally administered elections.

Most importantly, this bill helps ensure that Kansas voters have a meaningful, efficient, and reliable opportunity to participate in the presidential nominating process. In a county as large and diverse as Johnson County, that goal is best achieved through collaboration with professional election administrators.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to support House Bill 2447. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Huff, Chair
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